REMARKS

Applicants are well aware that going over issues after Final would be burdensome to the Examiner but still would like to have some Examiner's input and advice before we are perforce led to file an RCE to continue prosecution of the application. Applicants' attorney would appreciate very much if the Examiner would provide some feedback regarding the issues below. Applicants' attorney plans to call the Examiner after this communication is transmitted to the Examiner by fax.

Applicants understand that new entries of amendments are not a matter of right after a final office action. However, Applicants respectfully point out that all the amendments provided in the response to the final office action were present in the original claims before the final office action was issued. In particular, please consider point (1) below:

(1) In the advisory action, it is stated that: "The newly added limitations, inter alia, "a reset terminal of said microcomputer is connected to a GND" with respect to resolving a hang-up of the microcomputer as recited in claim 12, required further consideration/search."

However, it is noted that all of the limitations of claim 12 have been presented earlier before the final office action; there are no new limitations provided in claim 12. Claims 12 is a combination of claims 1 and 3-5. The limitation specifically mentioned in the advisory action is found word-for-word in claim 4, which was incorporated into claim 12 and canceled in the response to the final office action.

Thus, Applicants believe that claim 12 should have been considered on its merits.

Furthermore, Applicants believe the factual findings based on Beigel are not correct. See point (2) below.

(2) In the Advisory Action, it is also stated that: "In the remarks, applicants argued in substance that Beigel does not teach or suggest a rest circuit is connected to a rest terminal of a

microcomputer. But Beigel teaches a reset circuit [45] that gives a reset signal to the microcomputer when a power is supplied to said microcomputer [col. 4, lines 35-54]."

The power interrupt sense circuit 45 (alleged reset circuit) senses interruptions of power and if power interruption is detected, it sends an output signal to a logic 54 to (1) conserve operating power of the control circuit and (2) preserve the current on/off state of the AC power switch. It is not a reset circuit because it does not "reset" the logic 54. Beigel states in column 4, lines 47 to 54:

> This output signal generated by the power interrupt sense circuit 45 is used to disable power output to the LED to conserve operating power within the control circuit, and to write the state of the RS FF 22 into an electrically erasable programmable read-only memory (EEPROM) 50 which is a non-volatile memory element and serves to preserve the current state (ON/OFF) of the AC power switch.

Summary

Applicants appreciate any input and advice the Examiner makes regarding the above issues.

Dated: March 22, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
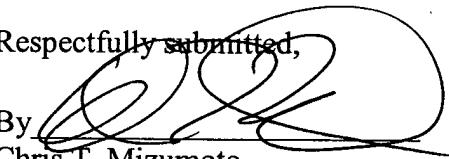
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